

**Consideration of the dedication of an addition to Donaldson Cave Nature Preserve,
Lawrence County**

The proposed nature preserve addition is a 33.5-acre property located within the boundaries of Spring Mill State Park, near Mitchell, Indiana.

The Donaldson Cave system is one of the most significant cave systems in Indiana. The current Donaldson Cave Nature Preserve (6 acres) includes primarily only the entrance area to the cave. The proposed addition includes much of the cave passage. Additionally, the surface above the cave contains very high quality plant communities including a mature to old growth dry-mesic upland forest dominated by white and black oak, and a limestone glade plant community.

The tract is owned and is under the administration of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks and Reservoirs.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves Exhibit A: map indicating the location and boundaries of the proposed addition to the nature preserve.

AGENDA ITEM #7

Nature Preserves Exhibit A

Addition to Donaldson Cave Nature Preserve

County: Lawrence

USGS Map: Mitchell

Size: 33.5 Acres

Ownership: IDNR State Parks and Reservoirs

